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NEW EQUIPMENT, NEW METHODS, INCREASED PRODUCTION IN RUMANIA'S MACHINE PLANTS

[Comment: Rumania's metallurgical and machine building industries showed an increase in production during April 1953, according to the April 1953 issues of the Bucharest newspapers Munca and Scanteia. This increase is attributed to the intensive drive in honor of 1 May, as well as to new tools and new Soviet methods currently in use in Rumania.

The following report, taken from the two above newspapers, presents information on a meeting held in Arad to discuss methods for improving the quality of machines and tools produced in Rumania; data is also given on new equipment and methods, and on increased production.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

Machines, Tools Discussed at Meeting

A nationwide meeting was held in Arad on 16 - 17 April 1953 to discuss methods for improving the quality of machines and tools produced in Rumania. The meeting was organized by the General Technical Directorate, under the Ministry of the Metallurgical Industry, and with the assistance of the Iosif Ranghet factory in Arad.

The meeting was attended by leading engineers, technicians, and Stakhanovites from enterprices throughout Rumania. It was also attended by professors from higher institutions, and by representatives of the Rumanian People's Republic Academy and the Institute of Metallurgical Planning.

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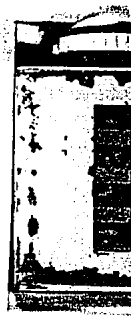


The opening address was given by Radu Cernea, Assistant Minister of the Metallurgical Industry. Reports were given by representatives of the following enterprises: Iosif Ranghet, Steagul Rosu, Strungul, Uzinele Metalurgice Cugir, and Infratirea.(1)

New Equipment for Machinery Plants

A number of Rumanian machinery plants obtained, or developed, new tools and equipment during the first quarter of 1953. The Steagul Rosu factory in Stalin announced the procurement of the following equipment: mine cars which unload automatically, machines for fraising valves, intermediary transmissions for the petroleum industry, precipitation columns for the chemical industry, and high-pressure containers for hydraulic presses.(2)

Larger metallurgical enterprises are using a newly invented slotting machine for finishing large-sized gears, nuts, and bolts. The machine has a trajectory of 300 millimeters. It also can be adapted to the production of precision instruments.(3) Two heavy machine tools have been constructed from Soviet blueprints. The first is a horizontal milling and boring machine, type MU-1, with a 130-millimeter axle. This machine drills holes up to 750 millimeters in diameter and 1,100 millimeters in depth. The second machine is a heavy parallel lathe, type MV-2, which finishes parts with a maximum diameter of 920 millimeters. The height between centers is 450 millimeters and the distance is 4,500 millimeters.(1)

The Strungul factory in Stalin announced the testing of a prototype of a new lathe engineered by IPROM (Institutul de Proectari de Masini, Institute for Machine Planning). The Metalurgica factory in Sibiu recently completed five new caterpillar tractors for the wood industry. (2)

Steagul Rosu in Stalin replaced the manual-type universal stands with new pneumatically operated universal stands. Workers were furnished with goggles protecting them from cuttings and other waste material. These improvements resulted in increased production.(4)

The Soviet Union is sending Rumania newly designed lathes, fraising machines, shaping machines, large-sized pneumatic hammers, and other equipment. Soviet books are providing excellent guides for technological progress, and Soviet methods, such as those developed by Zhandarova, Shyutkikh, and Voroshin, are aiding workers to become Stakhanovites. This over-all aid accounts for the 15-percent increase in Rumania's production. (5)

Adoption and Development of Industrial Methods

An ever-increasing number of Rumanian industries are adopting the Soviet Kolesov method of rapid cutting of metals. The tool section of the Progresul factory designed a special blade-sharpening machine which prepares Kolesov blades. One of the first to adopt this method was Apostol Mocanu, who reduced the working time on an axle from 6 to 4 hours. Likewise, Stakhanovite Ion Andronache reduced the working time for an excavation tool from 8 to 5 hours. Other workers achieved similar successes. (6)

The 23 August factory in Bucharest took the following measures to speed production: the supply of spare parts and removal of cuttings were stepped up, a small polisher was set up for sharpening tools, a special section was created for sharpening blades, and all work sites were supplied with better quality tools and materials. (7)

Lathe operators at the Resita metallurgical combine are achieving important successes in honor of 1 May. By applying the Kolesov method, Ion Lissi lathed the crown block of an oil well rig in 35 minutes instead of the 70 minutes

formerly required. Another lathe operator machined a large piece of steel in 3 hours instead of the former 5 hours. Other workers and brigades surpassed their new norms by 10 percent. (8)

The Kolesov method was also extended to 62 lathes of the Sovrom-utilaj-petrolifer factory in Resita. The management of this enterprise adopted 280 workers' suggestions for improving production. (9) At present, 1,896 workers from Sovrom-utilaj-petrolifer are using Soviet work methods. (10) Similarly, the Steagul Rosu factory in Stalin is applying the Kolesov method for the rapid cutting of metals and the Soviet method of changing shifts. (4) Forty lathe operators of the Stalin tractor factory applied the Kolesov method and thereby increased their labor productivity by 150 percent. (2)

Factories in Cluj Regiune have adopted the Soviet Mukhanov-Levshenko method of reducing operational costs. Particularly good results were obtained at the Industria Sarmei factory in Campia Turzii, where the method saved 20,000 lei. (6)

A new method for rapid cutting of metals was first introduced in the Stalin metallurgical industries. This new method is known as the Kulagin method for rapid cutting of iron. The first worker to try this method was Stakhanovite Micu Moise of the Sovromtractor factory. His efforts resulted in the production of a blade with a negative rake angle. After adopting this new blade, lathe operators raised their labor productivity by 66 percent.

Moise and Stakhanovite Florian Bunta built a device to permit the simultaneous lathing of 8 to 10 pieces. This method was later introduced at the Steagul Rosu factory in Stalin. Workers at this factory were able to lathe a tool in 3 minutes, an operation which formerly required 20 minutes. As a result of the new method, some workers fulfilled their norms 660 percent. (11)

The smelting section of the Unirea metallurgical works in Cluj adopted the suggestion made by Stakhanovite Eugen Nagy to replace forged iron pipings with stronger steel cores. This suggestion resulted in an increased production of 22 percent. (4)

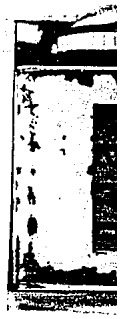
The factory management of the Boleslaw Bierut factory in Bucharest accepted 54 suggestions submitted by workers. These included the use of a new four-speed wire-drawing machine, removing excess tools from the work site, applying the rapid rolling method, and others. As a result of these suggestions, working conditions at the Boleslaw Bierut factory improved and labor productivity increased.

Another example of the good results derived from workers' suggestions is the efficiency of the electrical welding unit of the factory. Through the transformation of the conveyer furnace, and with the aid of a device for changing rollers on the rolling mills, many of the processing steps have now been mechanized. The section doubled its production capacity and increased the quality of the rolling metal. (12)

Increased Production

The Boleslaw Bierut factory in Bucharest reported a 22 percent increase in the use of refining furnaces, a 29 percent increase in the use of hydraulic presses, and a 12 percent increase in the use of wire-drawing machines. At the same time, the use of raw materials, auxiliary materials, fuels, and electrical energy was considerably reduced. (12)

The Industria Sarmei factory in Clug reported that 27 rapid charges were prepared in its Siemens-Martin furnace from 1 - 14 April. The production plan for this furnace was fulfilled 110 percent during the first half of April. (6)



The Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej Steel Combine in Hunedoara surpassed its average daily production of iron by 76.2 percent during March 1953. At the same time the percentage of rejected iron was reduced by 27.75 percent. Through a better organization of labor, the collective succeeded in reducing the repair time by 76 percent, from 1 to 13 April, and in producing 3.2 percent more iron than during the same period in March. The leading brigade fulfilled its quotas 112.5 percent. All these efforts were in honor o. 1 May.

Following the trend toward better trained workers, the Industria Sarmei factory in Campia Turzii opened seven new Stakhanovite schools on 12 April 1953. The schools were attended by 70 leading workers. Some of the courses were conducted in the factory's steel section, with emphasis on production of better-quality steel. The Steaua Rosie factory schools trained 300 workers during the past 2 years. A new school for Stakhanovites has recently opened and is now training 24 Stakhanovites. (11)

Machine workers of the Matyas Rakosi factory in Bucharest undertook to achieve greater production in honor of 1 May. They pledged to reach their 9 May quotas by 30 April, to produce ten engines above the norms, to increase labor productivity by 8 percent, to improve the quality of goods, to reduce the percentage of rejects, and to save 105,000 lei. (13)

Sheet metal workers from the Nicolae Cristea factory in Galati produced hundreds of tons of sheet metal and galvanized sheets above the plan, because of the intensive efforts made during the first quarter of 1953. Labor productivity increased an average of 17.4 percent per worker during January, and another 7.7 percent during February. Production costs were reduced by .2 percent. (14)

Stakhanovites Iancu Nedelcu and Dimache Capbun of Progresul in Braila reduced the finishing time for axles by 40 percent. Similarly, lathe operator Ion Petrescu shortened the time for finishing couplings used in homogenizing machines by 20 percent, and lathe operator Ene Paraschiv shortened the time for finishing axles for scrapers. Other workers surpassed the norms by 25 to 30 percent. Steelworkers, likewise, succeeded in producing numerous rapid charges in the last few days. One brigade alone, under the leadership of Ernest Ciornea prepared 5 - 6 rapid charges. (15)

The Semanatoarea factory in Bucharest held a meeting in honor of 1 May; I. Schmidt, general director of the factory, reported that the factory had surpassed its tonnage plan by 23.4 percent and its value plan by 13.6 percent. It also surpassed its tool plan by 198 percent and its consumer goods plan by 300 percent. The leading brigade surpassed its norms by 260 percent; other brigades surpassed their norms by 226, 164, and 153 percent. Over 1,200 workers entered competitions in honor of 1 May. (16)

Workers of the Steagul Rosu factory in Stalin started to work on the new, higher norms on 1 April of this year. Primary party organizations arranged intensive agitation in the last 2 weeks of March. Visual agitation was improved, and wall newspapers carried many articles relating to the change in norms. Ion Chis was one of the many workers who succeeded in shortening the working time on a ring /fig/ by carrying on two operations at the same time. This saved 25 percent of working time. (4)

In order to aid the nation's industrialization program, workers of the Sovrom works in Resita undertook to furnish, beyond the required norms, thousands of tons of steel, iron, sheet metal, structural steel, and other items. Steelworkers further promised to prepare 50 rapid charges during April and to reach the 5 May quota by 1 May. At the same time, they promised to increase labor productivity by 4 percent and to reduce costs by 1 percent. (9)

Workers of the Sovromtractor factory in Stalin were working on the 12 May quotas as early as 29 April. Some 13 mixed brigades from the Stalin tractor factory saved 96,739 lei in equipment and materials. These workers also submitted 135 innovations, 60 of which were accepted by the management. More than 330 Stakhanovites and 1,000 leaders in production were credited with these outstanding results. (2) A new system was established at Sovromtractor the factory. Additional shifts were added and reports were made every 4 hours on the progress of all workers. A competition was organized in honor of 1 May. The general assembly section led the competition by producing 100 percent more tractors th planned. The engine assembly section surpassed its norms by 60 percent. The machining section surpassed its norms by 25 percent. (8)

Similarly, furnace men from Sovrommetal pledged to surpass the April norms by 3 percent, to increase labor productivity by 5 percent, and to reduce costs by 5 percent. Stakhanovite Iosif Watzulich called for more careful use of the internal reserves of the section, and undertook to produce 4 percent more sheet metal above the April plan and reduce the costs by 1 percent. (9)

Steelworkers of Sovrommetal used advanced Soviet methods to produce 103 rapid charges of good-quality steel from 1 January to 12 April 1953. Furnace production was increased during the first 12 days of April by 2.4 percent per cubic meter, and over-all production was increased by 3.6 percent. The leader in production was Constantin Morariu, who produced over 90 tons of steel. From 1 to 12 April, furnace men from Sovrommetal surpassed the production plan by 5.4 percent, and sheet metal workers of the rolling mill surpassed their quotas by 23 percent. Because of the endeavors of the collective, the production quotas for the entire sheet metal section were surpassed by 4.6 percent, during the first 12 days of April, and economies rose to 11,000 lei. Other sections achieved similar successes in honor of 1 May celebrations. (17)

The collective of Sovrom-utilaj-petrolifer in Resita surpassed its norms by 1.5 percent during the first half of April 1953. The old machine section of the factory surpassed its norms by 2.9 percent during the first 15 days of April, while the new machine section showed an increase of 12.5 percent. Workers of the electrical machine factory surpassed their norms by 3.7 percent. (11) These same workers undertook to fulfill the 13 May quotas by 30 April, to increase labor productivity by 6.72 percent, to reduce costs by 1.1 percent, and to achieve economies of 100,000 lei. (3)

Workers employed at the 23 August factory in Bucharest, with the exception of those working on prototypes, started to work under the new norms. Intensive agitation resulted in a 25 percent reduction in absenteeism in the mechanical section and a simultaneous reduction in tardiness. This factory also produced 3 Suhov boilers above the plan and achieved economies of 100,000 lei. The factory collective achieved nationwide distinction through its completion of the first five 15-ton trucks, manufactured entirely in Rumania. (7)

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3. Ibid., 26 Apr 53

4. Ibid., 3 Apr 53

5. Viata Capitalei, 4 Feb 53

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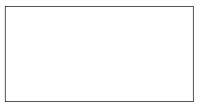

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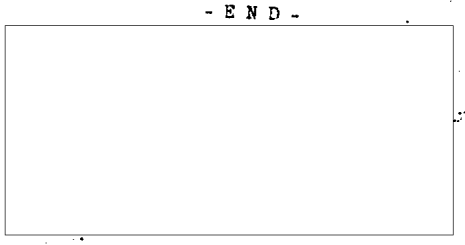

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